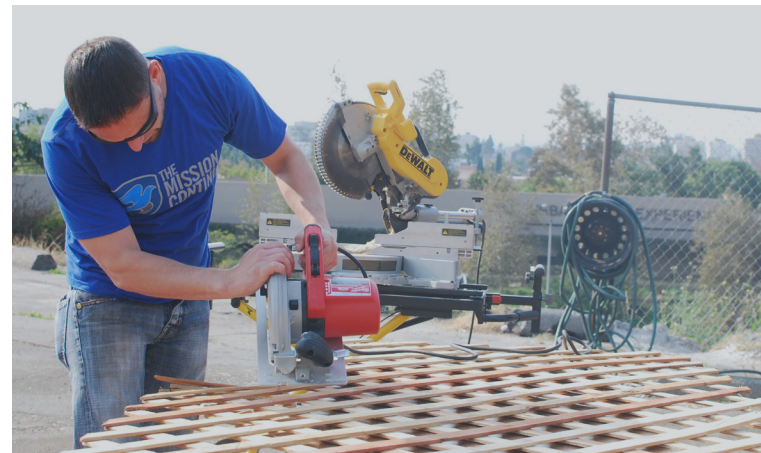




VETERANS DAY 2018

IMPACT REPORT



ABOUT US

At The Mission Continues, we empower veteran leaders to be at the center of meaningful long-term community impact nationwide. We're investing in veterans, equipping them with the tools and resources to lead a growing veteran volunteer movement. Veterans are serving in new ways to build stronger communities by addressing local challenges and mobilizing communities to serve alongside them.

WHY WE REPORT FOR DUTY ON VETERANS DAY

In honor of Veterans Day, we issued a call to serve in cities across the country to make a difference, swap stories, and meet other veterans, service members and supporters in their community. Our veterans led from the front to drive lasting positive impact and showcased a commitment to continuing their service in the neighborhoods that need it most. Over the course of three weekends in November, service platoons rallied across 50 cities to participate in 49 service projects and 29 community events.

OUR IMPACT

50

Cities served

49

Veteran-led
service projects

29

Community events supported

9,437

Hours of service

2,024

Volunteers

Our combined service totaled

\$232,999

worth of community impact*

*Based on Independent Sector estimate of the value of a volunteer hour at \$24.69/hour in 2018

SERVICE PROJECT AREAS OF IMPACT



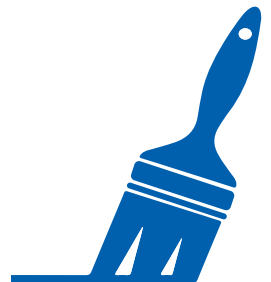
HUMANITARIAN
RELIEF

COMBATTING VETERAN
HOMELESSNESS



LANDSCAPING &
NATIONAL PARK
PRESERVATION

YOUTH
MENTORSHIP



RENOVATION
PROJECTS,
AND MORE!

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT: BALTIMORE 2ND SERVICE PLATOON



OUR COMMUNITY PARTNER: City of Refuge - Baltimore

OUR MISSION: Baltimore 2nd Service Platoon is partnered with City of Refuge, an organization in South Baltimore that guides underserved families to self-sufficiency through five key impact areas: health and wellness, housing, human trafficking, workforce development and youth empowerment. Our volunteers set out to help clean and reorganize the center, improving infrastructure and adding capacity. The service platoon will continue work with the organization during the 2019 Mass Deployment, Operation Charm City Charge.

OUR IMPACT: Nearly 50 volunteers joined forces to:

- Complete four separate painting projects including a mosaic mural, and the interior of a transitional home that will house two families for 6-12 months;
- Insulate a shipping container to serve as the new food pantry, which quadrupled the current amount of space to store food;
- Reorganize and build shelving for the clothing bank; and
- Transform the old food pantry into a storage space for new mother and baby supplies.

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT: EL PASO 1ST SERVICE PLATOON



OUR COMMUNITY PARTNER: Bowie Jarden Community Garden

OUR MISSION: El Paso 1st Service Platoon is committed to combating food insecurity, improving access to resources and sustainable agriculture for residents, and educating local youth about the importance of healthy choices. The service platoon partnered with Bowie Jarden Community Garden and Bowie High School as they sought to expand their growing capacity and ability to care for livestock. Their mission included improving garden infrastructure and bringing veterans and residents together for a day of celebration and service.

OUR IMPACT: Nearly 55 volunteers including students from Bowie High School came together to:

- Build an 8x16' chicken coop;
- Mulch approximately 12 garden beds to teach students about fertilizer;
- Plant beets, lettuce, radish, tulips, arugula and other herbs in the garden; and
- Clean and prepare compost bins, planters, and garden grounds for spring.

"Although lots of work remains, we truly came through as a team to move the project along. In the long term, [City of Refuge] will be able to house a family and help them get back on their feet and move forward. Our mission is to stay and provide valuable help and support every project one by one."

— CHRISTOPHER PAUL,
BALTIMORE 2ND SERVICE PLATOON LEADER

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT: ORLANDO 1ST & 2ND, JACKSONVILLE 1ST, MIAMI 1ST, TAMPA 1ST, PUERTO RICO 1ST, AND BROWARD COUNTY SERVICE PLATOONS



OUR COMMUNITY PARTNER: City of Orlando & Clean The World

OUR MISSION: Six veteran-led service platoons and over 100 veterans from across Florida and Puerto Rico rallied in Orlando to help displaced Puerto Rican families. Hurricane Maria forced more than 2,000 Puerto Rican families to evacuate to Central Florida with only their most personal possessions in tow, leaving behind heavier items such as furniture. Our volunteers aimed to assist these families, as well as families affected by Hurricane Michael, as they transitioned to long-term housing.

OUR IMPACT: Over 100 volunteers teamed up with The Walt Disney Company, Home Depot, AirBnB, Westgate Resorts, Goodwill and others in order to:

- Build 225 pieces of furniture for Puerto Rican hurricane evacuee families;
- Pack over 1,000 hygiene kits to send to victims of Hurricane Michael;
- Organize 100 “welcome home” kits consisting of toiletries, linens, cleaning supplies and more for families relocated to Central Florida, and
- Repair 50 damaged bicycles to donate to hurricane evacuee families.

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT: CHICAGO 1ST SERVICE PLATOON



OUR COMMUNITY PARTNER: Hope Manor II

OUR MISSION: In the spirit of Veterans Day, Chicago 1st Service Platoon members came together to give back to Hope Manor II, a large-scale supporting housing development specifically designed for Chicago veterans with families. The development provides a comprehensive response to the challenges faced by veterans experiencing homelessness and service platoon volunteers spent the day helping to build strong support networks for residents and encourage positive community involvement.

OUR IMPACT: Nearly 50 volunteers, including folks from Volunteers of America, Kids Rank, and generous support from the Chicago Bears, came together to:

- Sort, organize, and decorate the community center with artwork created by local youth;
- Prepare and serve a hot brunch to residents;
- Provide strong social support by spending quality time with over 50 veterans and their families who live at Hope Manor; and
- Assemble over 25 game sets and other activities for use by Chicagoland nonprofit organizations.

“My favorite part of this project was bringing people together. Over 100 volunteers from across the state of Florida and beyond came out to forget themselves and put their values into action in the service of others.”

— BOBBY WITHERS,
ORLANDO 1ST SERVICE PLATOON LEADER

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT: TACOMA 1ST AND SEATTLE 1ST & 2ND SERVICE PLATOONS



OUR COMMUNITY PARTNER: Compass Housing Alliance

OUR MISSION: Compass Housing Alliance provides the only permanent housing solution for veterans experiencing homelessness in the South Sound. The alliance offers veteran-specific resources for single veterans as well as those with families and maintains programs to specifically engage youth in reading, art, and more. Volunteers from the Tacoma 1st, Seattle 1st, and Seattle 2nd Service Platoons celebrated Veterans Day by committing to bring color, cheer, and community building to CHA's veteran housing.

OUR IMPACT: Over 85 volunteers, with support from The Seattle Seahawks and Lyft, rallied together to:

- Repaint and freshen up four rooms within the center, including the reception room, children's play and learn room, and community recreation room;
- Demolish an old wooden fence surrounding the property in order to build a brand new one;
- Build new furniture, courtesy of the Seattle Seahawks, to furnish the community recreation room and children's game room; and
- Decorate the center with veteran-themed artwork and wall paintings.

MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS



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4
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SPECIAL THANK YOU TO FOX SPORTS FOR THE SUPPORT!



"My heart is still so full from yesterday, the vision of the project was so inspiring and seeing the end results was uplifting. I would love to continue offering my time with The Mission Continues and looking forward to when that time comes next."

- SHEREE SEMONICH,
FIRST TIME VOLUNTEER WITH TACOMA 1ST SERVICE PLATOON

REPORT FOR DUTY WITH US IN YOUR CITY:

Get involved by visiting www.missioncontinues.org/events